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times extends to the logic ; Mr. Curtis can hardly think that to return a private favor with an Indian agency was a notably "honorable discharge" of obligation (p. 34).

The lack of historical background is distinctly lamentable. If the sentence, "During long years of controversy, the pro-slavery party had hope of ultimate triumph, but until the election of Lincoln there was no actual treason or revolutionary act" (p. 161) means anything, it is the expression of a view long since discarded. The "Secessionists" did not control both houses of Congress in February, 1861 ; and the danger feared with regard to the counting of the electoral vote was military and not legislative (p. 166). Scarcely the most rabid Republican of 1861 would have called President Buchanan and General Duff Green "rebel leaders" (pp. 162-163). The men who came into conflict with Lincoln are almost invariably led by the most personal of motives. Douglas was "compelled to choose between the favor and support of the Buchanan administration and that of the people of Illinois. As the latter alternative was necessary to his public career, he adopted it" (p. 108). The treatment of Chase is extremely harsh.

Errors of typography are few and the dates are generally accurate, but there are a few slips of the pen ; on page 187 Buchanan should be Pierce, and on page 207 Seward should be Chase. The illustrations are well selected, including eight pictures of Lincoln, and are attractively reproduced. The index is slight and inaccurate.

C. R. FISH.

*Memories of a Hundred Years.* By EDWARD EVERETT HALE. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1902. Two vols., pp. xiv, 318 ; ix, 321.)

*Colonel Alexander K. McClure's Recollections of Half a Century.* (Salem, Mass. : The Salem Press Company. 1902. Pp. vii, 502.)

THESE two works, the one by an octogenarian, the other by one nearing the same mile-stone, the first from the facile pen of the well-known Boston clergyman and literary man, the second by the almost equally celebrated Philadelphia journalist and sometime politician, at once challenge the attention and awaken our interest. Very few men of their time have enjoyed a wider or more intimate acquaintance with those who were the leaders of the thought and life of the nation for the past half-century.

In view of the title of Dr. Hale's volumes, one might almost be pardoned for asking him the same question which he tells us a Philadelphia lady in unconscious ignorance put to him at the conclusion of a lecture on Washington, namely, whether he was personally acquainted with his hero. The *Memories*, in fact, go back as far as the French and Indian War. As the author informs us that his own recollections do not antedate Lafayette's visit in 1825, when Hale was three years of age, it is clear that a part of the remembering must necessarily be done by proxy. Indeed the author explains that they embrace what he happily calls

“keyhole views” of “his own generation and of the generation before his own,” the latter being transmitted to him by the friends of his early years.

The work is neither history nor autobiography, but rather a succession of reminiscences of anecdotal character with offhand comments about many of the leading men and events of our past, loosely strung together in a highly entertaining and chatty way. Those who turn to it seeking either definite information or well-considered judgments will be doomed to disappointment. It leaves much to be desired in the accuracy of its historical details, and too often the violent prejudices of the author find free expression in its pages. While there is apparent a certain plan and method in the arrangement of the successive chapters, there is little continuity in the subject-matter. On the other hand, the peculiar charm and interest of the *Memories* come chiefly from the delightful personality of the author, which is revealed on every page. The vivacity and naturalness of his style, the wide range of his interests, the variety of his experiences, and the frankness with which he gives expression to his views — prejudiced though they may be — hold the reader's attention.

The first volume, which relates chiefly to the generation before his own, is the least interesting and valuable, and contains more blemishes, particularly where it treats of political affairs. In the second volume Dr. Hale deals with his own time, speaking of many of the men with whom he has been associated and of the causes with which he has been identified. His recollections of the leading orators, historians, and literary men of New England are entertaining, although they could hardly be expected to add materially to our knowledge of such familiar characters. The most interesting and valuable chapters, it seems to me, are those which relate to the antislavery movement and the Civil War. Dr. Hale's account of his own part in the work of the Emigrant Aid Companies and his relations with Eli Thayer is of the first importance, notably the reference to his pamphlet on *How to Conquer Texas before Texas Conquers Us*, written in 1845 shortly after the admission of Texas, advocating colonization by the free-states men nearly a decade before this plan was employed in settling Kansas. It is such personal experiences as these that lead the reader to regret that the author did not reserve more of his space for such important and enlightening glimpses into the history of his own day.

There remains the unpleasant task of noting some of the blemishes alluded to above. A good example of the extent to which he has absorbed, perhaps unconsciously, the prejudices of the old New England Federalists is seen in his treatment of Jefferson and “poor Mr. Madison” and the other members of what he “likes to call the Virginia Dynasty,” with “their failures and follies, their fuss and feather and fol-de-rol.” Jefferson as President, he considers, occupies “the place in history which a fussy and foolish nurse fills in the biography of a man like Franklin, or Washington, or Goethe, or Julius Cæsar.” Again, prejudice is seen in his reference to the English government as having “crowded peace

down the throats of the American envoys," at the close of the War of 1812. One can readily permit the author of *The Man without a Country* the privilege of devoting some twenty pages to the relatively unimportant history of the true Philip Nolan; but what shall be said of the historic judgment which attributes to his unjust execution the origin of American enmity to Spain, the annexation of Texas, and our hatred of Spain from that day to the recent Spanish-American War? Certainly the reader cannot fail to be amused at the suggestion that Texas should erect a statue to Philip Nolan, either in the state's own capitol or in that of the nation, to perpetuate the resentment of the Southwest to Spanish treachery.

Dr. Hale tells us that he has "a memory of iron," but it frequently proves unreliable in matters of detail, as the following citations attest: He refers to Fisher Ames as a member of the Senate rather than of the House (I. 17). Jackson's visit to Boston is placed in 1830 (I. 271) rather than the correct date, 1833. Webster's speech defending his retention of office in Tyler's administration is given as in 1841 (II. 38), whereas it was in the following year. Webster is spoken of as secretary of state in 1844 (II. 35), although he had retired from the cabinet in the previous year. He gives the date of South Carolina's Negro Seaman's Act as in 1823 (II. 128) instead of 1822. Dr. Hale also errs in thinking that the first national convention was that of the Democratic party in 1832 (I. 232). It is well known that this institution was the important contribution to national politics of the short-lived Antimasonic party. He fails to state correctly Clay's share in the Missouri Compromise (I. 234); and in his treatment of the Monroe doctrine he apparently confuses the question of colonization with that of the independence of the South American states (I. 246). A little more regard for "modern historical realism" and "the dry-as-dust historians," as Dr. Hale calls them, would have saved him from these and many other lapses.

The work is enriched with numerous illustrations, reproductions of portraits, broadsides, autograph letters, and other original material.

Colonel McClure, unlike Dr. Hale, has confined his *Recollections* to the last half-century. His volume likewise is neither an autobiography nor a connected history, but a collection of some fifty miscellaneous sketches of men prominent in the civil and military history of the republic, together with papers upon important events in the nation's life. In those character-sketches in which he gives us the results of his personal acquaintance he is at his best, and the portrait that he draws may usually be accepted as true to life. Unfortunately, however, he has included in this volume a number of papers of a different character which are little more than compilations that any well-equipped writer might have prepared from secondary works.

Among the best of the first class may be mentioned his sketches of the various presidents from Lincoln to McKinley, his noble tribute to Henry Wilson, his sympathetic account of the career of Samuel J. Randall, and his able and interesting study of Grant and McClellan, in which he contrasts the aggressive and the defensive general. In the main

Colonel McClure is discriminatingly just in his estimates and dispassionate in his criticisms ; only occasionally is his personal bias or prejudice apparent. His style is that of the experienced journalist, simple and easy, although it is not especially picturesque. The work may be considered substantially free from errors of fact.

HERMAN V. AMES.

*Horace Greeley, Founder and Editor of The New York Tribune.* By WILLIAM ALEXANDER LINN. (New York: D. Appleton and Company. 1903. Pp. xiii, 267.)

THIS volume is the third in Appletons' "Series of Historic Lives." Thwaites's biographies of Father Marquette and Daniel Boone preceded it, and A. C. Buell's sketch of Sir William Johnson is now its successor. Mr. Linn's studies of character in his excellent *Story of the Mormons* probably afforded him less preparation for this portraiture of Horace Greeley than he derived from his experience as a journalist in New York city and in the office of the *Tribune*. He has, therefore, enjoyed the advantage of a personal acquaintance with his subject.

Throughout this little volume the skill of the expert news-writer is pleasantly evident. The story runs quickly and lucidly. There is no verbiage. The dramatic situations are seized, and Greeley is made to reveal, usually in his own words, the defects and the virtues of his personality. In the preface the outline of the whole sketch is condensed into one sentence :

. . . A gawky country lad, with a limited education and a slight acquaintance with the printer's trade, comes to the principal city of the land with a few dollars in his pocket and a single suit of clothes, and fights a fight the result of which is the founding of the most influential newspaper of his day, and the acquirement of a reputation as its editor which secures for him a nomination for the presidency of the United States. . . . (p. 5).

In less than sixty pages is summarized the story of Greeley's earlier career, of his evolution from a poverty-stricken country boy in New England into an editor of a literary weekly in New York city, a Whig politician and pamphleteer, and a protégé of Thurlow Weed. Fifty pages more contain the story of the foundation of the *Tribune* in 1841, and an analytical estimate of the relations between Greeley's personality and the newspaper that he had created. One chapter is devoted to Greeley's advocacy of a protective tariff down to the era of the Mexican War, and another chapter to the attitude of Greeley and his paper towards the slavery question down to the outbreak of the Civil War.

In the decade 1850-1860 Greeley stood at the zenith of his influence and reputation. His word was law among the northern farmers, who had learned to read the *Weekly Tribune* as though it were a weekly Gospel. Raymond's *Times* was probably more popular in New York city than the *Tribune*, but Raymond himself, when berating Greeley for his unrelenting opposition to Seward's nomination in 1860, referred to the *Tribune* as "the most influential political newspaper in the country." Perhaps Bennett's *Herald* had more readers, yet Bennett was not